

The eggs of the Wattled Brush Turkey *Aepyodius arfakianus* (Salvadori) (Megapodiidae).

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The Wattled Brush Turkey inhabits mountain and hill forest of parts of New Guinea, from 850–2,800 metres, and is the only megapode occurring at these altitudes. Its mound-building has been described by Mayr (1930) but data on its eggs are scarce. Schönwetter (1961: 201) referred to their colour (white) but gave no measurements, while Hartert (1930) gave measurements of a c/3 collected by Mayr in the Arfak Mountains, and of a c/4 taken by Albert Eichhorn in the Hydrographer Mountains.

In the collection of the British Museum (Natural History), besides these seven eggs collected by Mayr and Eichhorn, there are two clutches, a c/1 and a c/5 (the latter the largest so far recorded from a mound of this species) taken by F. Shaw Mayer at Saiko, 5,500–6,000ft., Bubu River, Upper Waria River, north-east New Guinea, during September 1936, and a c/2 obtained by Andrew Goldie in the Astrolabe Mountains.

The fifteen eggs in the National Collection, all a rough-grained white, give an average size of 93.2×60.8 (max. 101×60.5 , 96×63.3 ; min. 80×61.5 , 88.5×58.5 mm.). These mensural data complement Schönwetter (*loc. cit.*).

References:

- Hartert, E. 1930. List of the birds collected by Ernst Mayr. *Novit. Zool.* 36: 27–128.
Mayr, E. 1930. Beobachtungen über die Brutbiologie der Grossfusshühner von Neuguinea (*Megapodius*, *Talegallus*, *Aepyodius*). *Orn. Mber.* 38: 101–106.
Schönwetter, M. 1961. *Handbuch der Oologie*, pt. 4.